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The Mollusks of the Rocky Mountains. By E. Ingersoll. (From Popular Science Monthly, May, 1876.) 8vo, pp. 7.

Handbook for Young Sportsmen; a Treatise for the Amateur Devotees of Field Sports and Angling. By Will Wildwood. Milwaukee. 1876. 16mo, pp. 94, 25 cents postpaid. For sale by D. H. Eaton, Peotone, Ill.

Concerning the Fishes of the Ichthyologia Ohiensis. By D. S. Jordan. (Bulletin Buffalo Society of Sciences.) 1876. 8vo, pp. 6.

Quarterly Bulletin of the Nuttall Ornithological Club, Cambridge, Mass. Vol. i. No. 1. April, 1876. Published by the Club. 8vo, pp. 28. \$1.00 a year; single numbers, 30 cents. Address H. B. Bailey, 13 Exchange Place, Boston, Mass.

Contributions to the Natural History of Kerguelen Island, made in connection with the United States Transit of Venus Expedition, 1874-75. By J. H. Kidder, M. D. Vol. 2. Washington, D. C. 1876. 8vo, pp. 122.

Catalogue of the Fishes of the Bermudas. By G. Brown Goode. Bulletin 5 of the United States National Museum. Washington, D. C. 1876. 8vo, pp. 82.

Bulletin of the United States Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories. Vol. ii. No. 3. Washington, D. C. June 5, 1876. 8vo, pp. 197-277.

Ninth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Peabody Museum of American Archaeology and Ethnology. Cambridge. 1876. 8vo, pp. 56.

Bulletin d'Insectologie Agricole, Journal Mensuel de la Société Centrale d'Agriculture et d'Insectologie, Entomologie appliquée. 1^{re} année. Nos. 1-5. Paris, 1875-76. 8vo.

On the Occurrence of *Eozoön Canadense* at Côte St. Pierre. (From the Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society for February, 1876.) London. 8vo, pp. 10, with a plate.

GENERAL NOTES.

BOTANY.¹

SCHÆNOLIRION Torr. — This is the name given by Dr. Torrey to an Asphodelineous, Liliaceous genus, founded on *Phalangium croceum* of Michaux, a native of Georgia. Elliott, having what he supposed to be Michaux's plant, transferred it to *Ornithogalum*, and described the petals as white, with a mark of doubt. Later, Scheele, in *Linnæa*, xxiii. 146, published an *Ornithogalum Texanum* with white flowers, from Lindheimer's Texan collection. In the Botany of the Mexican Boundary Survey, issued in 1859, Dr. Torrey characterized the present genus and a species, *S. Michauxii*, referring to it Michaux's original plant "floribus croceis," the plant which Elliott had taken for it, and which was now known, from Florida specimens collected by Mr. Buckley and Dr. Chapman, to be white-flowered, and likewise the Texan plant which was equally white-flowered. The blossoms of these sometimes turning yellowish in drying, Dr. Torrey too hastily concluded that Richard, the editor of Michaux's Flora, had mistaken such originally white flowers for saffron-colored, and so changed the specific name in order to correct an error while he honored the discoverer. Dr. Chapman, in his Southern Flora, adopted Dr. Torrey's view, he knowing of a white-flowered

¹ Conducted by PROF. G. L. GOODALE.

species of his district; but he long ago expressed to us the opinion that this could hardly be Michaux's original species. Dr. Wm. T. Feay, of Savannah, several years ago had the good fortune to meet with the original yellow-flowered species, and the acuteness to mark the distinctions. But only this spring was he able to procure fresh specimens, and to place them in my hands for confirmation. My attention being thus called to this genus, it was not difficult to ascertain that my lamented associate had brought together, under his name of *S. Michauxii*, three nearly related but distinct species. This does not include still another plant, of which a flowering raceme only, collected by Mr. Pratten in California, had been submitted to him by Mr. Durand, and which, at his suggestion, was published in Durand's *Plantæ Prattenianæ* under the name of *Schœnolirion album*. I know nothing of this Californian species, and it certainly needs confirmation. I can, however, perfectly identify the original species. When examining the Michauxian herbarium at the Jardin des Plantes, in 1839, I could find no specimen of this rare "*Phalangium croceum*." I sought and found it, however, in the herbarium of L. C. Richard, the editor of Michaux; and the possessor, Achille Richard, kindly permitted me to take a capsule and a couple of flowers, which, with my notes, are still preserved. Now that we know there is a yellow-flowered species, I cannot doubt that this is Michaux's plant, and it inhabits a district which he repeatedly traversed. Moreover it is also well described by Nuttall (Gen. Pl. i. 220), who distinctly states that the flower is "saffron-yellow," a statement which Dr. Torrey must have overlooked. The species may be distinguished by the following brief diagnosis:—

(1.) *S. CROCEUM*. Flowers saffron-yellow; divisions of the perianth oblong, 3-nerved; filaments nearly filiform; leaves (arid, gramineous, Nutt.) narrow and tougher than in the following, *Phalangium croceum*, Michx. Fl. i. 196; Nutt. Gen. i. 220. Southwestern part of Georgia, Michaux, Feay, etc.

(2.) *S. ELLIOTTII* Feay. Flowers white; divisions of the perianth oval, mostly 5-nerved; filaments subulate. *Ornithogalum croceum*, Ell. Sk. i. 397, excl. syn. *Schœnolirion croceum*, Torr. quoad syn. Ell.; Chapm. Fl. 483. S. Georgia and Florida.

(3.) *S. TEXANUM*. Flowers white; divisions of the perianth oblong, 3-nerved; filaments subulate. *Ornithogalum Texanum*, Scheele in *Linnaea*, xxiii. 146. *Schœnolirion Michauxii*, Torr. Bot. Mex. Bound. 220, excl. syn. Michx. and Ell. E. Texas, and adjacent borders of Louisiana.

S. ALBUM. Durand, Pl. Pratt in Jour. Acad. Philad. n. ser. iii. 103, of California, needs confirmation. — ASA GRAY.

ANTHERS IN *TRILLIUM*.—These are described, and on the whole correctly, as introrse in *Trillium*, while they are extrorse in *Paris*, and in the Himalayan *Trillidium*, which is between the two. The species vary some, such as *T. cernuum*, having an almost marginal dehiscence.

And Mr. M. W. Vansdenberg, of Fort Edward Academy, New York, an acute correspondent, has pointed out a marked exception in the case of *Trillium erythrocarpum*. This has the most slender filaments of all, and my correspondent calls attention to the fact that they are inserted on the divisions of the perianth, well above their base, and the anthers are plainly extorse. — ASA GRAY.

SPORES OF *BLODGETTIA CONFEROIDES*. — In Harvey's *Nereis Am. Bor.* there is a curious figure of a plant which he called *Blodgettia confervoides*, which, if it correctly represents the fructification of the alga in question, is entirely unlike that of any other known alga. Bornet is of the opinion, from examining dried specimens, that the bodies figured as spores are parasites of some kind. Mr. F. W. Hooper, recently returned from Key West, gives the following as the result of his examination of living specimens of *Blodgettia* :—

"The figure of Harvey is curious indeed. To begin with the curious net-work of fibres bearing his so-called spores is, together with the spores, entirely colorless. The anastomosing fibres are made up of short cells placed end to end. The cells are about three times as long as broad. The wall of the cell is distinct and the contents colorless. It would seem, in many cases, that the so-called spores are only thin cellulose swollen up, since they appear often in the middle of a filament. They are more often borne on a side branch and are often irregularly placed, looking like a miniature bunch of grapes. This whole structure is not a part of the cell-wall, but ramifies between the layers of the cell-wall. As a proof of this we have this peculiar arrangement of fibres and spores (?) continuing right through from one cell of the *Blodgettia* to the next. I am certain that the filaments and spores (?) have walls distinct from the layers of the cell-wall of the *Blodgettia*. A cross section shows this distinctly. Generally two or three layers of the cell-wall of *Blodgettia* separate the parasite (?) from the cavity of the cell. I can see but little reason for calling it a unicellular alga. Morphologically it suggests those *Callithamnia* which have seirospores." — W. G. FARLOW.

BOTANICAL PAPERS IN RECENT PERIODICALS. — *Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club*, May. T. L. Brandegee, List of Colorado Musci and Hepaticæ. P. J. Berckmans, in answer to a query by Dr. Thurber, states that *Acanthospermum xanthoides* and *Clerodendron Siphonanthus* were observed by him (in 1857 and 1873 respectively) in Georgia. Professor Tuckerman states that Willdenow's description of *Phaseolus multiflorus* was founded upon Cornuti's plant.

Annales des Sciences Naturelles, Botanique, VI. Sér., II. Tome, Nr. 2 et 3. P. Duchartre, Observations on the Bulbs of Lilies (2d memoir). Ch. Naudin, Irregular Variation in Hybrid Plants. Vesque, Comparative Anatomy of Bark.

Comptes Rendus, 1876, No. 14. M. Cornu, On the Spermatia of Ascomycetes, their Nature and their Physiological Role. No. 15. Boussingault,

The Growth of Maize begun in an Atmosphere free from Carbonic Acid. Schnetzler, Action of Sulphide of Carbon on the Insects infesting Herbaria. No. 16. A. Trécul, On the Capillary Theory, illustrated by Amaryllidaceæ.

Flora, No. 10. Georg Winter, On some Ustilagineæ. Kraus, On the Formation of Hairs on Potato Sprouts. Geheeb, Mosses from the Mountains near the Rhone. De Krempelhuber, Brazilian Lichens. Velten, The Influence of Temperature on Protoplasmic Movements (to be hereafter noticed). Ranwenhoff, Is Horny Prosenchyma a Special Vegetable Tissue? (Answered in the negative.)

Botanische Zeitung, No. 15. Weisner, On the Crystalline Character of the Waxy Deposit on Cuticle. Brefeld, On the Culture of certain Fungi. No. 16. Holle, On the Growth of Roots of Angiospermous Plants, with Special Reference to the Root-Cap. No. 17. Sadebeck, On the Relation of Pythium Equiseti to the Potato Fungus. No. 18. Velten, On Electricity in Plants.

ZOÖLOGY.

ANOTHER CASE OF ANIMAL COMMENSALISM. — An interesting instance of animal commensalism came to my notice recently, during the cruise of the United States ship *Portsmouth* among the islands of the Pacific Ocean. I found in the cloacal dilatation of the alimentary canal of a holothurian a crab belonging to a class higher in the scale of classification than any that has yet been discovered possessing parasitical habits.

It is the first instance to my knowledge where a crustacean of the high type Cancroideæ has been found living as a "free messmate" within the body of another animal. It belongs to the family Portunidæ, or swimming crabs; and it is one of those aberrant forms, or connecting links, uniting the natatorial and the gressorial species.

It represents not only a new species, but a new genus; and Dana unconsciously possessed the type of the genus in a little individual which he found on the coral reef at Ovolan, Feejee Islands. He modified an already existing genus (*Lissocarcinus* White) in order that it might receive his species; yet, in spite of his modification there exists almost as wide a difference between the two as between two common genera of our own coast, *Carcinus* and *Platyonichus*, which are related in the same way. White, in the description of his species (*Lissocarcinus polyboides*), states that it is a powerful swimmer, with the tarsi of the posterior pair of feet broadly expanded; while in Dana's species the tarsi are flattened and expanded in about the same proportion as in *Carcinus*, a littoral genus, where the lateral expansion of the tarsus of the last pair scarcely exceeds that of the three preceding pairs.

Dana's species was a male; while the one which I found was a female. It is well known that among crustaceans it is generally the fe-